

## HESS STABLE

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From an architectural standpoint the board-and-batten siding is important. Mass, Andrews and other historians have seen this means of construction as a style. The visual effect of a vertical thrust caused by the battens themselves loaned itself quite nicely to the Gothic Revival. The placing of battens over the cracks caused by butt-joining the vertically laid weatherboards however, has the practical value of reducing air flow through those openings. It is an important feature on frame buildings in general but of particular importance in an animal shelter where there is little or no heat and the only protection from the elements are the thin walls.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA - 1416 (A)

MAGL-031416(A) 5506

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Hess Stable

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Alleyway behind #609 Baltimore Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☒ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Jack Trapp

Telephone #: 252-8077

STREET &amp; NUMBER

1947 Greenspring Dr.

CITY, TOWN

Timonium

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Maryland**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

New Courts Building

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

401 Bosley Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

BA-1416(A)

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

As far as buildings go this structure is probably the last relic of the era of horse travel and it is most certainly West Towson's most dramatic document of the fact that this town has been rural in character during most of its history.

Oral history and public records support the belief that this building was constructed as a stable for Mr. Hess, who had a moving company. The vans were kept in sheds that stood on the ground where #500 Baltimore Ave. now stands and the horses which pulled them were housed in this building.

The building consists of a main block that is two stories in height and which measures approximately 28' by 40'. It is a frame building resting on a stone foundation. The main block is capped by a gable-end roof which is covered with slate (contains snow guards). The main block is flanked by two single story shed roofed wings that add an additional 24 feet (each is 12 feet wide). The north wing is roofed with the same slate as the main roof while the south roof of the wing is covered with sheet metal. An interior flue chimney exits this wing at its southeast corner.

There is a variety of siding which includes both horizontal and vertical weatherboard as well as board-and-batten. The latter is perceived to be the original. As each facade varies from the next the following description is offered:

The west side faces the alley and because it contains the largest doors it is perceived to be the main facade. Large doors made of vertical beaded tongue-and-groove cover the entire first level of all three sections (the door of the north wing is made of 12" wide vertical boards with cut nails mounted on both butterfly and cut-strap hinges. The other doors are mounted on rollers and slide.

The central block appears to be divided into two bays and its doors constitute an area equal to a pair of double doors.

The upper level is vented by a hay loft door which is c. 4 feet square. A deteriorated crane-arm remains.

The south wall of the shed that is on this side is sheathed with beveled clapboards. There are three evenly placed 4/4 sash windows.

The upper portion of the main block is vented by three 4/4 sash windows. Board-and-batten siding can be seen on this facade although nearly half of it is concealed by green asbestos siding. The eaves of the sides of the building have undecorated exposed rafters while those of the ends are deeper and finished with butt-joined soffit boards.

The shed of the north side runs higher than the one on the south and meets the main block approximately two feet below the roof. Consequently there are no upper windows in this side. There are no windows in the north wall of the shed either which may be an attempt to better protect the animals during winter.

The east facade is covered with board-and-batten attached with cut nails. The gable, however, is finished with vertical tongue-and-groove.

There are three windows on the first level plus a four panel raised door in the south bay. There is one like it on the east wall of the south shed.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES      1877-1898

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Attachment

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

WAYNE L. NIELD, II  
HISTORIC TOWSON, INC.

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

## OUTBUILDINGS IN TOWSON

Outbuildings are important in understanding pre-modern lifestyles. In the area of transportation for example it is easy to overlook the number of buildings and other structures which have come into existence with the development of the combustion engine. These would include not only the home garage and gas station but heavier bridges and hard top roads as well as a host of "drive-in" stores and entertainments.

Although not as extensive or explosive, the same may be said of the age of horse travel and its buildings and structures. An understanding of Towson in the second half of the 19th century would be incomplete without realizing the number of stables necessary for housing horses and wagons. Neither the Hopkins nor Bromley Atlases indicate chicken houses, privies, etc., but they do show that quite a few homes had stables and barns behind them. The Hopkins Atlas of 1877, for example, shows over forty stables in central Towson. The Bromley Atlas of 1898 shows most of these still in existence with an additional twenty or so having been built in the meantime. All but one of these outbuildings are indicated as being of wood construction. Most of these were probably frame although it is known that the Bowen House for example had several log outbuildings. In 1850 there were stone outbuildings at Epsom and there was a stone spring-house behind the Towson Tavern but the only masonry barn/stable indicated by Bromley is a large brick structure on the southwest corner of Delaware and Pennsylvania Avenues. Hopkins appears to indicate the same structure in 1877.

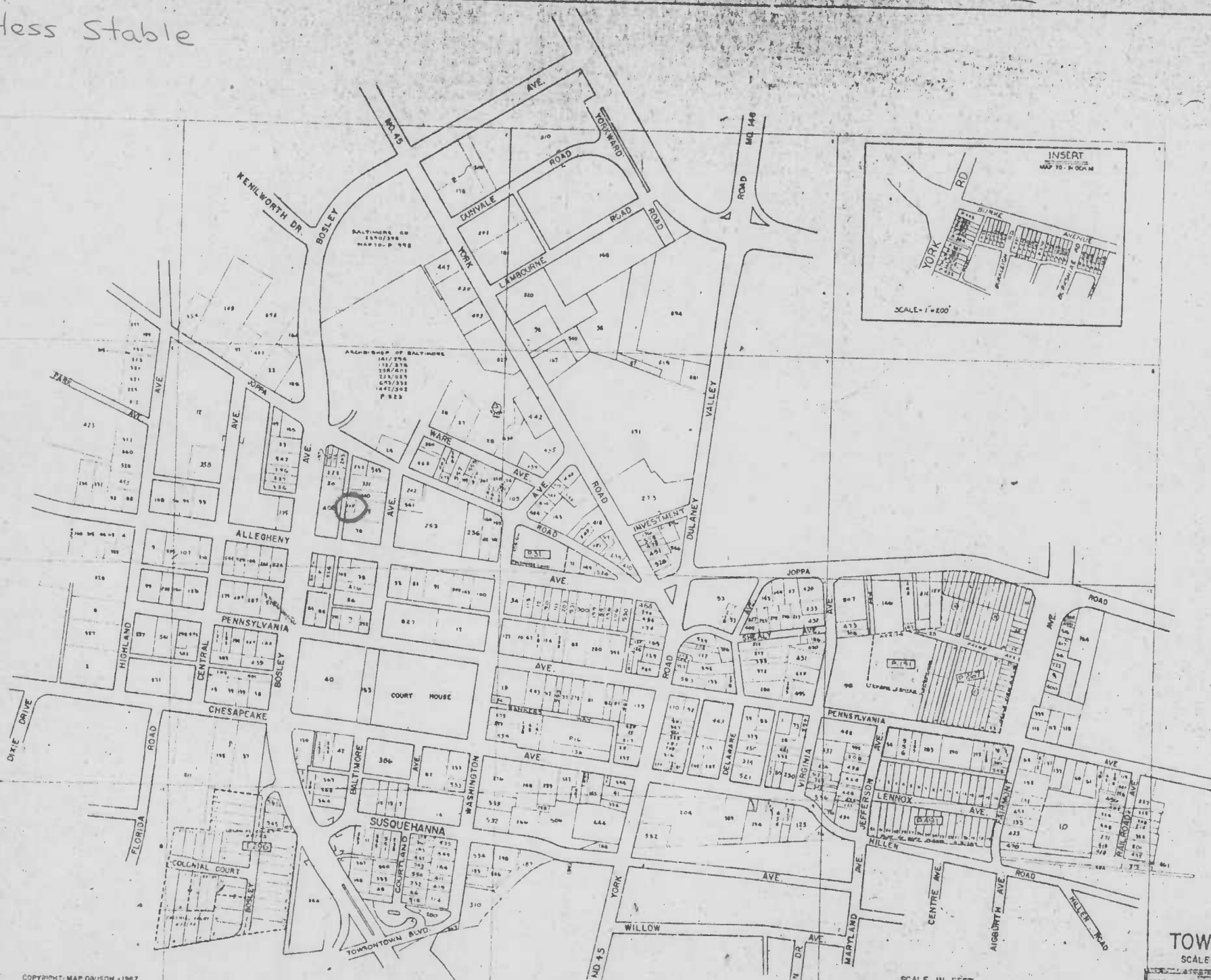
## TITLE SEARCH for # 602 BALTIMORE AVE.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Liber</u>	<u>Folio</u>
Nov. 13, 1882/	Washington Townsend to John J. Yellot/		WMI 131	516
May 19, 1883/	John J. Yellot to Mary E. Hess/		WMI 134	568
Dec. 27, 1889/	Mary E. Hess to Eliza Emory/		JWS 146	24
Mar. 22, 1895/	Eliza Emory to D. Hopper Emory & wife/		JWS 146	27
May 31, 1899/	D. Hopper Emory to Alexander McCurdy/		JWS 239	238
June 2, 1900/	Alexander McCurdy to Joshua R. Green, M.D./		NBM 246	102
Mar. 12, 1903/	Joshua R. Green M.D. to J. Talbott Booth/		NBM 268	143
Oct. 25, 1950/	J. Talbott Booth to Harry L. Warnken/		GLB 2841	322
Dec. 12, 1955/	Harry L. Warnken to Merle M. Yoder et. al./		WJR 3648	381

The house at 602 Baltimore Avenue does not appear on the map of Towsontown in 1877, done by Wheeler and McLane. But because we know that Washington Townsend bought the tract of land from Enos Smedly in 1862 (GHC 34/277) and that he sold his house on it in 1882, the house had to be built sometime between 1877 and 1882, a five year period.

Hess Stable

BA-1416 (A)



COPYRIGHT MAP DIVISION - 1967  
MD DEPT OF ASSESS & TAX

SCALE IN FEET  
200 0 200 400 600

TOWSON  
SCALE 1" = 200'

DEPT. OF ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION  
TOWSON, MARYLAND

MAP NO  
70A

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET 70A





BA-1416 (A)

HESS STABLE  
S.W. CORNER

W. NIELD  
SUM. 78



BA-1416 (A)

HESS STABLE  
N.W. CORNER

W. NIED  
SUM-78